(f) and (g) The Ministry of Health & Family welfare had not sent any recommendation in this connection.

Shifting of drugs needed for National Health Programme

1777. SHRI DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all major drugs needed for the National Health Programmes have either been price docontrolled or shifted from First Schedule to Second Schedule;

(b) whether it is also a fact that out of 60 drugs identified for National Health Programmes, around forty drugs have either not included or excluded in first schedule;

(c) whether his Ministry has assessed and analysed this situation keeping in view the policy which has the approval of the Cabinet; and

(d) if so, what steps are being proposed to rectify the situation as per Policy statement; and if not, by when the assessment would be made and action taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (d) Major drugs required for the following 8 National Health Programmes were recommended for price control under the Category I of the Drugs Prices Control Order, 1987.

1. National T.B. Programme.
2. National Leprosy Eradication Programme.
3. National Trachoma Control Programme and National Programme for control of Blindness;
4. Diarrhoeal Diseases Control Programme;
5. Goitre Programme.
6. E.P.I. Programme.
7. National Malaria Eradication Programme.
8. Filaria control Programme.

Out of the list of 60 drugs for 14 Health Programmes a shorter list of 26 drugs for 8 National Health Programmes was finally drawn up at the instance of Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals and sent to them. This list was short as it included only 8 National Health Programmes identified from the angle of price control and also eliminated drugs not in actual use for the programmes. Rifampicin and Paracetamol have been reclassified for the following reasons:

Rifiampicins Reclassifications was recommended to promote manufacture of the drug from the basic stage by fermentation techniques.

Peracetamol: Exclusion from Category I was recommended as the drug is basically anti-pyretic|analgesic and not an antimalaria.

The remaining 3 drugs viz Oral Rehydration Salts, Sodium Sulphacetamide Drops, Timolol Meleate were excluded from Category I of the Drugs Prices Control Order by the Deptt. of Chemicals and Petro-chemicals. The Ministry of Health & FW did not send any recommendations for their exclusion to the Deptt. of Chemicals and Petrochemicals.

The Ministry of Health and FW had set up an expert committee to review the listing of Category I drugs. Their report is under examination.

Exemption of formulations based on category-II from price control

1778. SHRI DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that formulations based on Category-II are exempt from price control for small scale units irrespective of sales turnover;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Kelkar Committee had pointed out in the supplementary report the serious damage to consumer due to exemption from Category-II

formulations of price control to small scale units;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Kelkar Committee informed his Ministry about these facts before making recommendations;

(d) if so, on what basis his Ministry agreed for shifting of category of drugs which are used for National Hsalth Programme; and

(e) what steps his Ministry is taking to rectify the position in the consumer's interest and the objectives announced in the Policy statement of December, 1986?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Kelkar Committee recommended exemption on the basis of sales turnover only.

(c) No such communication was received in the Ministry.

(d) The basis on which the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare recommended the shifting of Rifampicin and paracetamol from Category I of the Drug Price Control Order, 1987 was as follows:—

Rifampicin: Reclassification was recommended to promote manufacture of the drug from the basic stage by fermentation technique.

Paracetamol: Exclusion from category I was recommended as the drug is basically anti-pyretis|analgesic and not an antimalarial.

The remaining 3 drugs viz. Oral Rahydration Salts, Sodium Sulphacetamide Drops, Timolol Maleats were excluded from Category I of the Drugs Pices Control Order by the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemical and the Kelkar Committee. The Ministry of Health and F.W. had not sent any recommendation for the re-classification or exclusion of these drugs.

(e) The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare had set up an export committee to review the listing of Category I drugs. The report of the Committee is under examination.

Representatives of Health Ministry in Kelkar Committee

1779. SHRI DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry was represented in Kelkar Commitee;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether it is a fact that His Ministry did not give to the Kelkar Committee the auhority to comment on their behalf;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) if not, what are the reasons based on which Kelkar Committee referred about certain drugs for the advice of his Ministry and not taken the opinion of experts of his Ministry;

(f) whether it is also a fact that his Ministry is not authorised to comment on Category-II as per policy statement; and

(g) if so, in what manner such a step was taken and who is responsible for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) Dr. H. H. Siddique, Associate Professor of Pharmacology, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi and Dr. K. K. Malhotra, Consultant (Retired), Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, New Delhi were nominated by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to the Kelkar Committee.

(c) and (d) The Kelkar Committee was set up by the Ministry of Industry, Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals and their terms of reference was determined by that Ministry.

(e) References for advice were received from the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals. The reasons which may